

Message Text

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41

ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-10 PRS-01 RSC-01 /071 R

66603

DRAFTED BY: AF/E:EJSCHREIBER

APPROVED BY: AF/E:WBCOOTE

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P R 051352Z SEP 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KAMPALA PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UG, US

SUBJECT: AMIN TELEGRAM TO PRESIDENT

REF: STATE 175074

1. IN SEPT. 4 MEETING WITH UGANDAN CHARGE MWANGAGUHUNGA, AF/E DIRECTOR COOTE TERMED LATEST AMIN TELEGRAM TO PRESIDENT INSULTING AND DEROGATORY IN TONE AND SAID THAT HE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO RETURN MESSAGE TO CHARGE AS BEING UNACCEPTABLE. COOTE STATED FURTHER THAT RECENTLY WE HAD HOPED OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS MIGHT BE HEADED FOR AN IMPROVEMENT FOLLOWING AMIN'S LATE-JUNE SPEECH IN WHICH HE SAID HE NO LONGER AGAINST ANY NATION, INCLUDING UK AND US, PLUS VARIOUS OTHER OCCASIONS LATELY WHEN HE AND/OR SENIOR GOU OFFICIALS HAVE CALLED FOR IMPROVED RELATIONS. BUT IN SPITE OF AMIN'S EXPRESSED WISH FOR BETTER RELATIONS AND OUR OWN CONTINUED DESIRE FOR GOOD RELATIONS, WE NOW MUST SERIOUSLY CONSIDER WHETHER GOU REALLY DOES WANT GOOD RELATIONS AND INDEED WHAT TYPE OF RELATIONSHIP MAY BE POSSIBLE. COOTE SAID IT IS INDEED HARD TO COMPREHEND HOW A NATIONAL LEADER WHO PROFESSES TO WANT GOOD RELATIONS WITH ANOTHER

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COUNTRY COULD SEND SUCH A MESSAGE AS THE ONE AMIN HAS JUST

SENT TO PRESIDENT NIXON.

2. COOTE ALSO STATED THAT WE ARE RECALLING OUR CHARGE TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF USG/GOU RELATIONS.

3. MWANGAGUHUNGA REPLIED THAT HE HAD NOT BEEN SENT A COPY OF AMIN'S LATEST TELEGRAM TO PRESIDENT BUT WOULD IMMEDIATELY INFORM FONMIN IN KAMPALA OF OUR RESPONSE AND ACTION. HE AGAIN EXPRESSED HIS PERSONAL HOPE THAT RELATIONS IN FACT WOULD ONE DAY IMPROVE. RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PFOR
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE175959
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: AF/E:EJSCHREIBER
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730952/aaaabmha.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 STATE 175074
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08-Aug-2001 by worrelsw>; APPROVED <16-Aug-2001 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AMIN TELEGRAM TO PRESIDENT
TAGS: UG, US
To: KAMPALA DAR ES SALAAM NAIROBI LONDON
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005